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DOLGELLAU RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL  
HEALTH REPORT.

For the Year, 1959



Medical Officer of Health

EVAN RICHARDS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector.

IDWAL ROBERTS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

Cert. O. & M. & Food Inspector.



DOLGELLAU RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the District Medical  
Officer of Health for the year 1959  
TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
DOLGELLAU RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Health Report for the year ending  
31st December 1959.

It is heartening to note that the Registrar General estimated that there  
had been an increase of 80 in the population during the year and it is to be  
hoped that this trend will continue in the future.

Live Births were four fewer than in the previous year, and of these the  
illegitimate births were reduced from 11 to 3. Still births were also down  
from 3 to 1. There was however an increase of 2 in the infant mortality  
rate (under 1 year) and of these 4 occurred at under 1 week.

There were 15 fewer deaths than in the previous year and of these the  
majority were caused by diseases of the heart and circulatory system. In  
this category the number of deaths from Coronary disease showed a dramatic  
fall from nineteen to seven.

Cancer deaths were two fewer than in 1958 (Cancer, lung increased by 2  
and Cancer, Stomach decreased by 2)

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis during the year and the noti-  
fications of Pulmonary disease remained steady at 9, mostly in the higher  
age groups. Once again there were no notifications of Non Pulmonary disease.

Notifications of infections diseases fell from 78 to 36. There was  
a small outbreak of Scarlet Fever of a very mild nature during the year and  
two cases of Pneumonia were notified.

No cases of food Poisoning were notified during the year.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

EVAN RICHARDS,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
D.P.H.  
District Medical  
Officer of Health.

SECTION AGENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Rural District	158,942
Rateable Value	75,653
Population (Registrar's General figures)	7,900
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	295. 9. 10
Number of inhabited houses (According to the Rate Books) at the end of year.	2,809

COMPARABILITY FACTORS

Births	1.31
Deaths	0.92

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	53	43
Legitimate	51	42
Illegitimate	2	1

<u>LIVE BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION</u>	12.15
1958 figures	12.08

<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	1	Nil

<u>STILL BIRTHS RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION</u>	0.13
<u>TOTAL BIRTHS (Live: and Still)</u>	97
Births (Live)	96
Births (Still)	1

<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	1	4
Legitimate	1	4
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil

Infant Mortality (Rate per 1,000 Live Births)	52.08
1958 figures	30.00

Deaths of Legitimate Infants	53.75
Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	

Deaths of Illegitimate Infants	
Mortality (per 1,000 illegitimate live births)	NIL

#### DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	1	3
Legitimate	1	3
Illegitimate	-	-
Illegitimate Live Births (per 1,000 population)		0.38

MATERNAL DEATHS (including abortion)	
Total	NIL

<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY</u> (Rate per 1,000 live and still births) (Death connected with childbirth and pregnancy 1957 figure.)	NIL
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<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total Number - 99	49	50
Rate per 1,000 population	12.53	
1958 figures	14.58	

#### DEATHS FROM CANCER

Total Number - 20	9	11
Rate per 1,000 population	2.53	
1958 figures	2.81	

#### DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

Total Number -	NIL
Rate per 1,000 population -	NIL
1958 figures -	NIL

## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

- (1) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY  
One Medical Officer of Health  
One Public Health Inspector  
One Surveyor
- (2) LABORATORY FACILITIES:  
Water analysis (Chemical) carried out by the Public Analyst, Chester.  
Water (bacteriological) carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Aberystwyth.  
Milk (tests for cleanliness, for keeping quality and for tuberculosis) carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Aberystwyth. No charge is made on the L/A for these tests.
- (3) AMBULANCE FACILITIES:  
Four Ambulances stationed at Dolgellau. Transport for sick cases can easily and readily be obtained.
- (4) INFANT WELFARE CLINICS  
Held at: Dyffryn Ardudwy - once a month  
Dolgellau - Wesleyan Chapel vestry every two weeks  
Abergynolwyn - at the Aelwyd building once a month.  
Corris - at the Institute once a month.
- (5) ANTE NATAL CLINICS  
At Dolgellau Hospital - two a month.
- (6) ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC:  
At Dolgellau Hospital - two a month
- (7) TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC  
Held at the Dolgellau Hospital twice a month.
- (8) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION  
Arranged by the County Medical Officer of Health.  
Immunisation of babies and young children is carried out at the Primary Schools.
- (9) HOSPITALS:  
One fully equipped hospital at Dolgellau.



(10) INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

Total number of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year:—

	....	....	36
Scarlet Fever	....	....	7
Bacillary Dysentery	....	....	-
Whooping Cough	....	....	2
Measles	....	....	25
Infantile Paralysis	....	....	-
Pneumonia			2.

NEW CASESTUBERCULOSIS

Pulmonary - Total 3:	Males 6:	Females	3
Non-Pulmonary - Total NIL	" nil	"	nil

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS

Total NIL			
Pulmonary Total NIL			
Non-Pulmonary " "	Males Nil	Females	Nil

TUBERCULOSISNEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1958  
IN AGE GROUPS

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
15		1						
35		1						
45	1							
55	1	1						
65	1							
75	3							

## CAUSES OF DEATH

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Cancer Stomach	2	1
"    Lungs	4	-
"    Breast	-	2
"    Uterus	-	1
"    Other sites	3	7
Diabetes	2	-
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	4
Coronary diseases, angina	3	4
Hypertension with heart disease	2	-
Other heart diseases	2	1
Other circulatory disease	6	4
Influenza	1	2
Pneumonia	1	1
Bronchitis	2	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	10
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1
All other accidents	2	2
Suicide	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
	<hr/> 49	<hr/> 50 <hr/>

## FOOD HYGIENE

Inspections of food premises were carried out and advice to food handlers was given.

No. of prosecution.                      NIL.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948 & 1951

No persons were removed under the Provisions of these Acts.



GENERAL

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Houses - Public Health Acts	213
Houses - Housing Acts	127
Complaints investigated	19
Factories	4
Workshops	2
Infectious Disease Cases	NIL
Houses Disinfected	NIL
Petroleum Acts	29
Shops Acts	19
Interviews with Owners	64
Revisits to properties under notice or repair	81
Bakehouses	3
Butchers' Shops	6
Ice Cream Premises	17
Informal Notices served	14
Informal Notices complied with	11
Notice of Time & Place Issued	23
Houses Closed	10
Demolition Orders Made	2
Statutory Notices served, W. Act.	2
Statutory Notices Public Health Act. Sec.47	47
Statutory Notices Public Health Act. Sec.38	34
Statutory Notices Rent Act 1957	
Certificate of disrepair	4

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements	15
W.C.'s provided	9
H. W. System	2
Drainage systems	10
Alterations	9
Eaves gutters renewed or repaired	7
Dangerous walls	2
New bathrooms	11
New Chalet	1
New Cafe	2
Extensions to Caravan Sites	1
Facilities to Caravan Sites	3
Conveniences for Caravan Sites	4

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED  
continued

Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954

Applications for grant	1
Standard Grant	10
Discretionary Grant	
Electricity Systems	4
Petroleum Tanks installed	2
Stores (mercantile)	1
Tool Shed	1
River gauging station	1
Quarry workings	1
New Village Hall	1
Industrial additions	1

Drains, Water Closets and Refuse Accommodation

Obstructed drains cleaned	10
Obstructed W.C.'s cleaned	8
Drains repaired or reconstructed	9
Inspection covers renewed	3
W. C. Basins renewed	10

Other Nuisances:

Smoke	NIL
Animals kept (improperly)	1
Accumulations	NIL

SUMMARY OF WATER SUPPLIES

	Treated Water Bacteriological		Total
	S.	U.	
Council Schemes	85	10	95
Private Supplies	10	1	11
Hill Farming	12	16	28
Proposed Schemes	3	8	11
	110	35	145

# HOUSING PROGRESS

	Year	Traditional	Swedish	Total
Llanegryn	Pre-war	8	-	8
Dyffryn	1945	4	-	4
do	1947	-	8	8
Abergynolwyn	1947	12	-	12
Llanegryn	1948	8	-	8
Brithdir	1948	-	4	4
Llwyngwrl	1949	30	-	30
Talybont	1950	4	-	4
Bontddu	1951	8	-	8
Taicynhaeaf	1951	3	-	3
Dyffryn	1951	11	-	11
do	1952	7	-	7
Rhoslefain	1952	12	-	12
Llanfachreth	1953	7	-	7
Llanelltyd	1953	10	-	10
do	1954	9	-	9
Llanfachreth	1954	7	-	7
Arthog	1955	6	-	6
Llanelltyd	1955	4	-	4
Corris	1955	15	-	15
Llanelltyd	1956	3	-	3
Ganllwyd	1956	8	-	8
Llanelltyd	1957	3	-	3
		179	12	191
		-	6	6
		179	18	197

## Private Enterprise Development

New houses erected	24	Camping Sites developed	3
Change of use	1	Other Developments	4
New garages (Private)	16		

## OUTSTANDING SEWER SCHEMES

Extension Friog to Fairbourne	Village of Brithdir
Village of Arthog	" " Rhydymain
" " Mallwyd (hamlet)	" " Pennal
" " Aberangell	" " Talybont
Part village of Lower Corris	Part village of Upper Corris
Dinas Mawddwy S & S. D. Works in course of construction.	

### Rivers and Streams:

There are no industries in the district to pollute the rivers and streams but there are some careless individuals who insist on throwing tins and refuse into the streams. Warning notices are posted in some localities to cease this undesirable custom but it is difficult to achieve, positive results.

### Refuse Collection:

The Council have provided a satisfactory covered lorry, the necessary staff and a number of refuse disposal sites and undertakes by direct labour the scavenging of the scattered built-up villages and houses en route throughout the 14 parishes, which involves approximately 360 miles per week. The scheme has now been extended to include the Parish of Pennal. Twice weekly collections are made in the Corris, and Llanegryn areas.

### Smoke Abatement:

No action was taken in this respect during the year.

### Swimming Baths and Pools:

There are no public nor privately owned swimming baths open to the public.

### Eradication of Bugs:

One case was treated during the year.

### Meat and Food Inspection

Animals Inspected	Diseases	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Cattle 37	Emaciation	-	-	-	-
	Abscesses	-	-	-	-
	Extensive Bruising	-	-	-	-
Sheep 532	Urticaria (Extensive)	-	-	-	-
	Diopsy	-	-	-	-
Pigs	Fevered Condition	-	2	2	4
	Parasitic Livers	19	34	0	53
	Raw Meat	157	-	-	-

Other foodstuffs surrendered as being unfit for human consumption include the following:-

Tinned Meat	18 lbs	Tinned Puddings	2 lbs
" Crops	2 lbs 3oz	" Fish	3 lbs 12oz
" Fruit	30 lbs	" Soups	15½ oz.
Meat & Sausage	18 lbs	" Milk	4¾ oz.
Salad Cream	4¾ oz	Orange Juice	19 oz.

### Ice Cream Premises:

Number of manufacturing retailers registered	NIL
Number of Retailers registered	35
No of Retail Licenses for T. T. Milk distribution registered	53
Licenses Pasteurised Milk	13

### Clean Food Campaign (Food and Drugs Act, 1938):

The model byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 and adopted by the Council are in operation and are having effective results.

### Bakehouses:

These are small in number and subject to periodical inspection. They are kept clean and are limewashed or painted at intervals. There are no underground bakehouses.

### Workshops:

These are few in number and small and part occupied by the owner. The sanitary provisions are on the premises or nearby.

### PESTS ACTS, 1949-1952 April to December 1959

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricul- tural	All Other	Total
Inspections	48	1752	1068	311	3179
<u>Infestations:</u>					
Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	37	128	37	70	272
Mice (infestation)	-	30	1	6	37
	37	158	38	76	309

Conclusion:

The year 1959 brought further progress in improvements with major housing repairs, reconditioning and conversion of houses under the Hill Farming and Housing Act, which bring amenity to the District.

I am, Sirs,

Your Obedient Servant,

EVAN RICHARDS,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
D.P.H.

District Medical  
Officer of Health.

IDWAL ROBERTS,

M. R. S. H., M. I. P. H. I.,  
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